### **PATENT**

Atty. Docket No: 1968 Reissue

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S):

Charles A. Finn, et al

**GROUP ART UNIT: 373** 

3231X RECEIVED

SERIAL NO.:

08/988,331

**EXAMINER:** J. Woo

INN 24 2002

FILED

FOR:

December 11, 1997

December 11, 1997

UNIVERSAL COUPLER FOR SPINAL FIXATION

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Date of Transmission: January 24, 2002

I hereby certify that the following:

[x] This Certificate of Facsimile

x Amendment

[x] Copy of PTO form 1449 from parent application

[x] Supplemental Declaration signed by first inventor, Charles A. Finn [x] Supplemental Declaration signed by second inventor, Scott Sherman

are being facsimile transmitted to Examiner Julian Woo at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at 703-872-9302 on the date shown above.

Vanessa Mastri

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Attorney's Docket No. 1968 Reissue

### SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION

(ORIGINAL, DESIGN, NATIONAL STAGE OF PCT, SUPPLEMENTAL, DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR CIP)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:	FAX RECEIVED
TYPE OF DECLARATION  This declaration is of the following type: (check one)  [ ] original [ ] design  (check one, if applicable) [ ] national stage of PCT [x] supplemental  [ ] divisional	JAN 24 2002 GROUP 3700
[] continuation [] continuation [] continuation-in-part (CIP)  INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION  My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my residence I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:  UNIVERSAL COUPLER FOR SPINAL FIXATION	or an original
SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION  the specification of which: (complete (a), (b) or (c))  (a) [] is attached hereto.  (b) [x] issued on December 12, 1995 as [x] Patent No. 5,474,551  or [] Express Mail No, as Serial No. not yet known and was amended in reissue on April 22, 1999. (if applicable).  (c) [] was described and claimed in PCT International Application and as amended under PCT Article 19 on (if any).	

# ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I hereby state that this declaration is being made without deceptive intent.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations §1.56(a).

#### FOREIGN PRIORITY CLAIM

[] I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, U.S.C. §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed.

(complete (d) or (e))

(d) [x] no such applications have been filed.

(e) [] such applications have been filed as follows

EARLIEST FOREIGN APPLICATIONS(S), IF ANY FILED WITHIN 12 MONTHS (6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO THIS U.S. APPLICATION

COUNTRY APPLICATION NO. DATE OF FILING (month, day, year)

ILING PRIORITY CLAIMED (Pear) UNDER 35 USC 119

[]YES []NO

ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY FILED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS (6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO THIS U.S. APPLICATION

## CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF EARLIER U.S./PCT APPLICATION(S) UNDER 35 U.S.C. §120

[] I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §120 of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §120, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

Prior U.S. Application(s) or PCT International Application(s) Designating the U.S. For Benefit Under 35 U.S.C. §120.

#### U.S. APPLICATIONS

Serial No.

Filing Date

Status (issued, pending or abandoned)

## PCT APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S.

PCT Application No.

PCT filing date

U.S. Serial

Nos. assigned

(if any)

Status (patented, pending, abandoned)